



September 12, 2014

Donna Hart Gage, PhD, RN, NE-BC
Chief Nursing Officer
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20420

Dear Dr. Gage,

On behalf of the 60 undersigned organizations representing the Nursing Community coalition, we would like to congratulate you on your appointment as the Chief Nursing Officer for the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) at the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). Collectively, our organizations represent over one million registered nurses, advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs), nurse faculty, researchers, and students, and we are committed to promoting efforts that advance the health of our nation through nursing care.

We are confident that your leadership will continue to promote the VHA's efforts to ensure our nation's servicemen and women are receiving safe and high-quality care. In your previous leadership positions, you demonstrated the great ability to mediate and collaborate with leaders in the healthcare industry. Over your career, you have shown your steadfast commitment to improving patient outcomes through nursing care as you provided guidance and strategic direction to the nursing department at MedStar Georgetown University Hospital, and led Penn State Hershey to establishing a nursing department and reach Magnet designation. The Nursing Community is confident your experience and expertise will successfully assist the department as they continue to achieve high efficiency and efficacy in their patient care.

The Nursing Community applauds the department as it continues to provide an environment for interprofessional practice that promotes timely delivery of care. Again, we extend well-deserved congratulations to your appointment as Chief Nursing Officer of the VHA, and look forward to future collaborations. If our organizations can be of resource to you, please do not hesitate to contact Convener of the Nursing Community, Dr. Suzanne Miyamoto, at Smiyamoto@aacn.nche.edu or 202-463-6930, ext. 247.

Sincerely,

Academy of Medical-Surgical Nurses
American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing
American Academy of Nursing
American Assembly for Men in Nursing
American Association of Colleges of Nursing
American Association of Heart Failure Nurses
American Association of Critical-Care Nurses
American Association of Neuroscience Nurses
American Association of Nurse Anesthetists
American Association of Nurse Assessment Coordination
American Association of Nurse Practitioners
American Association of Occupational Health Nurses

American College of Nurse-Midwives
American Nephrology Nurses' Association
American Nurses Association
American Organization of Nurse Executives
American Pediatric Surgical Nurses Association
American Psychiatric Nurses Association
Association of Radiologic & Imaging Nursing
American Society for Pain Management Nursing
American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses
Association of Community Health Nursing Educators
Association of Nurses in AIDS Care
Association of periOperative Registered Nurses
Association of Public Health Nurses
Association of Rehabilitation Nurses
Association of Veterans Affairs Nurse Anesthetists
Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses
Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service
Dermatology Nurses' Association
Developmental Disabilities Nurses Association
Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association
Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association
Infusion Nurses Society
International Association of Forensic Nurses
International Society of Nurses in Genetics
International Society of Psychiatric Nursing
National American Arab Nurses Association
National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists
National Association of Hispanic Nurses
National Association of Neonatal Nurse Practitioners
National Association of Neonatal Nurses
National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
National Association of School Nurses
National Black Nurses Association
National Council of State Boards of Nursing
National Forum of State Nursing Workforce Centers
National Gerontological Nursing Association
National Nursing Centers Consortium
National Organization for Associate Degree Nursing
National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties
Nurses Organization of Veterans Affairs
Oncology Nursing Society
Pediatric Endocrinology Nursing Society
Preventive Cardiovascular Nurses Association
Public Health Nursing Section, American Public Health Association
Society of Urologic Nurses and Associates
The Quad Council of Public Health Nursing Organizations
Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society